



## Maine Farmer.

EZEKIEL HOLMES, Editor.

Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man.

Reflections concerning Fairs.

Every year we should be growing wiser, and the close of each season should find us farther advanced in the knowledge of whatever pertains to our calling, than the commencement of the year. What have we, as farmers, learned this season that we did not know before? What in relation to the great principles of our profession, or in regard to the many details which are connected with it, and which come into daily practice?—

Concerning our Cattle Shows and Fairs, have we learned how best to manage them, and how to derive the greatest amount of actual benefit from their attendance? Should we draw our oxen at these exhibitions, making them pull to the utmost of their strength, and more perhaps than they ought to, simply to obtain a small premium, or to show bystanders how heavy a load they could move a few feet upon a stone drag? Or, even, if we think it necessary to have some premium offered for the strength and discipline of working oxen, are we sure that this particular performance is just the best and most proper one that can be adopted?

We recently overheard a part of a conversation between two farmers, about this very subject. One was relating the particulars of a trial of much the same kind—though of more practical importance—as our usual hauling of oxen at Fairs, which he witnessed at a Cattle Show in Massachusetts. An ox-wagon was loaded with stone to the weight of two tons. The test was, to attach the oxen to the wagon, drive down a small descent in the road, turn about, haul the load up the hill, and leave the wagon in the same spot where it was taken. The points to be taken into consideration in awarding the premium, were, the length of time occupied, the setting of the wagon, and the manner in which the hauling was performed. This appeared to us to be the most judicious way in which the discipline and strength of working oxen could be tested, and far more appropriate than the present mode of attaching them to a drag. Is not this a matter which demands the attention of those upon whom devolves the management of our County Fairs?

Is merit always considered the criterion of judgment in awarding premiums for any article exhibited? Is it not often the case that other considerations influence the committee in deciding upon an article, besides that of intrinsic merit?—

At a Fair in New York, not many years since, John J. Thomas, one of our most eminent and skillful pomologists, and author of the "American Fruit Culturist," presented some very choice apples for exhibition, which, unfortunately, were placed upon the shelves beside some very large ones. The committee, of course, not knowing the exhibitors, awarded a high premium for the large apples, and recommended, as a gratuity for the smaller ones, Thomas' "Fruit Culturist." We leave the story, and its moral, for the consideration of our readers.

When we attend a Cattle Show, and examine the various objects of attraction there presented, is it our only aim to see everything to be seen, and be content with the seeing? Horace Greeley once said in an agricultural address, that a farmer should not be content to go to a Cattle Show and look upon a fat ox, without asking the owner of the animal how he got so fat, what feed he employed, and how much per day, the cost of production, and other questions; and then he should satisfy himself whether or not he could make it profitable to employ the same means to fat his own animals. And this is the correct way to see any object or article at Fairs or other places. It is only by these questionings, and their direct application to our own affairs, that we are in reality benefited and made wiser. To many farmers are our Fairs schools of instruction, where every article and every exhibitor is a teacher to him of some fact, principle or idea, which before this he was wholly ignorant of!

Other reflections have been suggested to us by attendance at Shows this autumn, but we stop here for the present.—

### Wheat Ground for the Spring Crop.

The preparation of ground in the fall for the early sowing of wheat in the following spring was considerably practiced by farmers in Maine last year, and so far as we have heard with very successful results.

The method adopted was to plow and harrow the ground and fix it in every particular as if you intended to sow the ground immediately. Then let it lie until the snow is gone in the spring, and the surface thawed sufficiently to allow the harrow to settle deep enough to cover the seed and put under cover to ripen.

### New use for Apple Juice.

The *Rural New Yorker* has found a paragraph in some of the English journals which seems to point at a new use for apple juice, and of course an additional demand for cider barrels. It does not say whether sweet cider is required, or whether "hard cider" will answer. It will not make much odds to us this year, as there will not be cider enough made in Maine to liquor up a mine.

### Hops and Potatoes for Yeast.

Anna Hungerford, of Michigan, communicates to the *Rural New Yorker* the following method of making hop yeast, which she says is superior to all yeast: Take a handful of hops, pour water and boil them ten or fifteen minutes, strain off; take half a pint of thinly sliced potatoes, to a quart of the hop juice; boil the potatoes in the hop juice till they become tender, then add half a cup of flour, well mixed with some of the boiling juice; half a cup of sugar and a quarter of a cup of salt; cook five or ten minutes, and if the quantity is reduced by boiling add a sufficient quantity of water to make a quart of the liquor. Then cool and add your rising and after it is light it should be kept in a cool place for use. Half a cup of this mixture, she says, is sufficient for four loaves of bread. Very good, Anna, but why don't you dispose of it in the horticultural line?

### Flowers that will not need Planting every Year.

A lady friend, who is fond of cultivating flowers, said to us the other day—"Among all your farming, cannot you give us flower-growers a list of handsome plants that will not need planting every spring?" Though not much of a florist, we told her that it was easy enough to give her a list of such flowers, but the trouble would be to make a good selection. There are perennial plants enough, but the idea is to cultivate the choicer and gayest flowering ones.

A writer over the signature of G. B. H., in the *Country Gentleman*, has given a short list of such plants, which we copy for the benefit of our friend, asking nothing more than a bouquet from them when they come into bloom. The writer above named advises that "when planted in a border along a fence or hedge, the tallest should be put into the back ground, and the dwarf sorts in the front. Also that spaces should be left between them for planting annuals, so that when the perennials have done blooming, the annuals may keep up the beauty."

The following is the list referred to. They can be had of the nurserymen and florists at reasonable prices, and are, as a general thing, easily multiplied from roots or cuttings:

*Achillea Pinnata.*—Double flowering, with small, white daisy like flowers, continues a long time.

*Campanula or Bellflower.*—In many varieties; are very showy, and of great beauty.

*Daphne or Larkspur.*—One of the best of this class of plants, and indispensable in the garden. The best variety is *D. formosa*, with very large blue flowers with white center. Four or five feet high.

*Agave or Columbine.*—A well known plant with flowers of many shades of color. The double blue variety is very pretty.

*Companula or Bellflower.*—In many varieties; are very showy, and of great beauty.

*Primula or Polyanthus.*—One of the best of this class of plants, and indispensable in the garden. The best variety is *P. formosa*, with very large blue flowers with white center. Four or five feet high.

*Lychnis chalcedonica.*—Scarlet *Lychnis*. The double variety is very beautiful. Four feet.

*Phlox.*—Great attention has been paid to the improvement of this family, and it now stands first in the estimation of most cultivators. From two to five feet high.

*Spiraea.*—A very extensive genus of desirable plants. The variety usually called the King and Queen of the meadow are the best known. *Spiraea japonica* is one of the finest sorts.

*Tradescantia, or spider wort.*—A pretty plant, with white, blue and red flowers. The blue variety is the best known and the prettiest. Low.

*Iris, or Fleur de Lys.*—A very showy flower in many colors of varieties, too well known to need description.

*Dictamnus fraxinella, or Gas plant.*—This plant is very desirable, having white or red flowers, with a strong fragrance like camomile. Medium height.

*Primula.*—One of the most beautiful annuals. The flowers are of a beautiful pink color, heart shaped, and borne on graceful sprays. Blooms amongst the earliest of this class. By cutting down after blooming, a second second bloom may be obtained. Three or four feet.

*Funkia, or day lily.*—The white sort is very beautiful and fragrant, and all are pretty. Low.

*Iris, or Fleur de Lys.*—A very showy flower in many colors of varieties, too well known to need description.

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## THE MAINE FARMER: AN

## AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY

## NEWSPAPER.

## Removal of Gen. Fremont.

The reports and rumors of the last few weeks, in regard to Gen. Fremont and his command of the Army of the West, have at length taken definite and tangible shape. On Saturday 24 inst., while preparations were making for an attack upon the enemy, which was making its appearance in force near Springfield, Gen. Fremont received an unconditional order from Washington relieving him at once from his command.

The intelligence spread like wildfire through the camp, and created indescribable indignation and excitement. Great numbers of officers signified their intention to resign at once, and many companies laid down their arms, declaring that they would fight under no one but Gen. Fremont.

General Fremont spent much of the time ex-

plaining with the officers and men, urging them by their patriotism and their personal regard for him not to abandon their posts. He also issued the following farewell order to the troops:—

HEADQUARTERS WEST, Nov. 2, 1861.

SOLDIERS OF THE UNION.

Beloved soldiers received this day I take leave of you. Although our army has been of

sudden growth, we have grown up together, and

I have become familiar with the brave and

generous spirits which you bring to the defence

of your country, and which makes me antici-

pe for you a brilliant career. Continue as

you have begun, and give to my command

some credit and encouragement, and with

any particulars, brisk and active. With some

exceptions, however, it is based upon the call for

men and munitions for the immense army

gathered together for the defence and pros-

peration of our Government.

Soldiers, I regret to leave you. Most sincerely

I thank you for the regard and confidence you

have invariably shown me. I deeply regret that

I shall not have the honor to lead you to the vic-

tory which you are entitled to. I shall

claim the right to share with you in the joy of

every triumph, and trust always to be personally

honored by my compatriots in arms.

JOHN C. FREMONT, Major General.

The patriotic efforts of Gen. Fremont were suc-

cessful in calming the feeling of dissatisfaction

which prevailed on account of his removal. Previous

to the arrival of Gen. Hunter, who was ordered to succeed Gen. Fremont, although the latter was no longer in command, he made personal examination of the ground about the city, and in accordance with a written request from all the Brigadier Generals there, he remained through the night to lead the army in case of attack. No attack was made, however, and the next day Gen. Fremont took his departure for St. Louis, where it is presumed a Court Martial will be immediately summoned to investigate the charges preferred against him.

Capitalists say we don't know what will come

for that. It is true there is a great demand for this

item, but the large sums are being paid out in particular locations but we do not

know how long this call will last. We feel, with

confidence in the justice of our cause, and the strength of our arms, that there is, neverthe-

less, an instability of confidence in the continu-

ation or permanence of this or that branch of in-

dustry. Hence it will be prudent to be a little

cautious in letting out a full tide of money.

We have said there is more money in the econ-

omy than ever before. This is very apparent,

as is the short of breadstuff. She must obtain

abroad and although war, pestilence, famine go hand in hand, we are in the Pro-

tection of God, only cursed with war at the pre-

sent time. War we have in our midst, but pesti-

lence and famine we are exempt from. Our crops

are abundant. We are the Egypt to which

the famishing can apply and fill, and it is a

spectacle to see Young America devor-

ing half a million of soldiers in defence of her

constitutional right with one hand, and pour-

ing broad in lavish profusion into the empty gour-

ses of the Old World with the other, that the

living people may be fed. This brings Euro-

peans gold into our country, and the balance of

it is in our favor. We are receiving the gold

instead of foolishly paying out more

for the luxuries and gewgaws of sign hand, as we have heretofore done.

Then again the California stream continues, if

it is also more abundantly than ever, which is also

at home. Thus, notwithstanding the enormous daily expenditure of the government, there is also daily, an accumulation of money

in our borders, and but for the uncertainty

which we spoke of, it would circulate more gen-

erally than ever among us. This is very apparent,

as is the short of breadstuff. She must obtain

abroad and although war, pestilence,

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The call for beef, mutton and pork is steady at

debt prices. Wool has come up in price, and

those who were not in too great a hurry to sell

in the season, will realize a good profit on

their clip. The call for cavalry and other horses

the army use has made a good business among the

holders of that class of farm stock in the State,

and several hundred thousand of dollars have been

borrowed among the farmers by the purchase of

them. If the war should continue any time, we

must be a continuous, though perhaps not

active demand for the same articles, and pro-

tection of our borders, and restored confi-

dence will be easier and plainer than ever.

MANUAL OF AGRICULTURE. A useful, and there

is a good book has been issued from the

Swan, Brewer & Tleton, Boston, under

the sanction of the Massachusetts State Board of

agriculture.

The authors are Geo. E. Emerson, author of a

report on the Trees and Shrubs of Massachusetts,

and Chas. L. Flint, Secretary of the Massachu-

setts State Board of Agriculture, and the well

known author of various works on practical Ag-

riculture. This is sufficient recommendation of

value of the work, and a sure guarantee of its

thorough adaptation to the purposes and design

of its publication.

THE ELECTIONS. Recent elections have been

held in Massachusetts, New York, and

elsewhere.

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NEWSPAPER.

## Military Matters in Maine.

The Eleventh Regiment of Maine Infantry, Col. Caldwell will leave this city in cars, at six o'clock tomorrow morning en route for the seat of war. The regiment is filled up to the maximum standard of 950 men, thoroughly equipped with everything necessary for service except their arms, which will be furnished to them we understand at New York. The destination of the regiment is to be Annapolis, when it will probably be sent to the fort at Fort Monroe.

The following intelligence received from rebel

sources, having been brought to Fortress Monroe by flag of truce, indicates the probable success of the expedition:

NEW YORK, Nov. 8. A special Fortress Monroe

dispatch to the *Times*, says our fleet was

bombarding Port Royal, which was said to be in

a critical condition and just ready to surrender.

The rebel commander had a small steamer under

his control, and threatened to go out and

seize one of the vessels of the fleet which had

been driven on a lee shore with troops aboard.

The *Times* comes through a succession of

ships, and is claimed to be derived from one of General Hughes' aids.

A special dispatch to the *Times* says one of our gunboats was disabled by the rebel guns, and another was aground, and Capt. Tatnall was

about to take it. It was reported at first that

the Great Republic was lost, but it was incorrect.

The steamer Union, with a cargo of horses and mules, was captured by the rebels, and the horses were lost during the engagement.

The crew of both, twenty-seven in number, were

prisoners at the fort at Kill Devil, which is on

Rogues' beach, coast of North Carolina.

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